

JUL 20 1925

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"THE WILD BULL'S LAIR"

By Frank M. Clifton
C I S T

CHARACTER

PLAYED BY

Dan Allen. Fred Thomson
Eleanor Harbison Catherine Bennett
James Harbison Herbert Prior
Henry Harbison Tom Carr
Eagle Eye Frank Hagney
Yuma. Frank Abbott

and

Silver King

.

~~Story and Continuity~~ by Marlon Jackson

Director Del Andrews,

Assistant Director Al Werker

Cameraman Ross Risher

Released by F.B.O.

Release date June 28, 1925.

~~Footage~~

6 reels

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Legends have it that Skull Mountain is inhabited by a weird supernatural being, and that violent death awaits anyone who tries to scale the haunted ridge of rocks. And Eagle Eye, an embittered product of an Indian School who dreams of the return of the buffalo and the redman to power, plots for vengeance against the hated cattlemen and trades on the Skull Mountain superstition. Eagle Eye has a dream of crossing a wild bull belonging to James Harbison, a wealthy cattle breeder, with the bison strain, and thus raising a breed so fierce that it will rout the rangemen. Against the advice of his son Henry, and of Dan Allan, foreman of an adjoining ranch, Harbison listens to the Indian's subtle words, hoping to get a hardier, better breed of cattle.

Two years later the cattlemen are thoroughly aroused and terrified by the deviltry and ferocity of the strain of the Harbinger cross-bred cattle, and warn the stubborn old man that he must keep the wild bull confined. While Harbison is trying to prove to himself that his wild bull is not dangerous the animal escapes, Eagle Eye, whose evil heart seems to have a bond of sympathy for the ferocious animal, leads the bull to Skull Mountain through a secret passage.

Soon a rumor of a supernatural animal which rustles the cattle and leads herds away to the Mountain becomes current gossip in the cattle country, and Dan Allen determines to go to Skull Mountain to solve the mystery. But his horse, Silver King, refuses to ascend it. Like all animals, he seems terrified of the place, and pulls his master back in frantic fear. As Allen is starting to go up alone, wild scream sounds from above, and the body of Henry Harbinger

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hurtless through the air, landing lifeless at Dan's feet. But even this fails to imbue the cattlemen with courage enough to storm the mountain, despite Dan's pleadings. They are not afraid of man or beast, but they dread this thing they believe an unearthly menace.

A few nights later Dan is aroused by Silver King as the Wild Bull is rustling the cattle. He rushes out with his pal, Red O'Shay and fires at the animal; but Eagle Eye has previously loaded his gun with their lives. This convinces O'Shay that the bull is a Speck, but Dan still remains skeptical.

Eagle Eye comes to Harbinger and tells the old man that he has found the hideout of his escaped bull. Harbinger is delighted, and the wiley Halfbreed leads him to the stockade on Skull Mountain where he has kept the animal imprisoned. Then he tells Harbinger that as a reward he must have the hand of his daughter, Eleanor. The old man, who has always liked the Indian, is incensed at this and indignantly refuses. Though he has tried to separate Dan Allen and Eleanor, who are sweethearts, he is unwilling to let an Indian marry his daughter. But Eagle Eye lashes Harbinger to a tree, and threatens to let out the wild bull to gore him if he does not acquiesce. His resistance weakened by the fiendish threats of torture of the Indian. Harbinger finally writes a note telling Eleanor to come to the mountain, and this Eagle Eye sends down by a half-wit Indian boy.

Eleanor comes to Skull Mountain; but Dan has finally determined to investigate the mountain top at all costs. O'Shay, unable to dissuade him, accompanies his friend. Arrived at the top they are just in time to see Eagle Eye about the spring the latch on the

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-3-

Wild Bull's pen, with Harbinson tied to the trees and Eleanor helpless before his horrible intent. Dan grapples the bull as it charges from the pen, and a terrific struggle ensues in which Dan is thrown and nearly gored, but finally manages to "bulldog" the terrible animal and save Eleanor and her father.

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